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PATENT
Our Docket: P-LJ 3650

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
John C. Reed)
)
Serial No. 09/388,221)
)
Filed: September 1, 1999)
)
For: NOVEL CARD PROTEINS)
INVOLVED IN CELL DEATH)
REGULATION)
)

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 28 2003

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT

The U.S. Patent and Trademark (USPTO) permits parties that establish status as a Small Entity to pay certain reduced fees (all citations to 37 C.F.R. § 1.27 except as noted). To be entitled to Small Entity Status, a party must be at least one of the following:

(1) Individual person:

An individual person, including an inventor and persons to whom an inventor has transferred some rights in the invention. § 1.27(a)(1).

(2) Small business concern:

A business concern whose number of employees, including affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. § 1.27(a)(2) (incorporating 13 C.F.R. § 121.802).

"Business concern" means individual proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, joint venture, association, trust or cooperative. If the concern is a joint

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venture, participation by foreign business entities may not be more than 49%. 13 C.F.R. § 121.105.

The "number of employees" is the average number of employees, including the employees of its domestic and foreign affiliates, based on numbers of employees for each of the pay periods for the preceding completed 12 calendar months.

"Employees" includes all individuals employed on a full-time, part-time, temporary, or other basis. Part-time and temporary employees are counted the same as full-time employees. If a concern has not been in business for 12 months, use the average number of employees for each of the pay periods it has been in business. 13 C.F.R. § 121.106.

Concerns are "affiliates" of each other when one concern directly or indirectly controls or has the power to control the other, or when a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both concerns. 13 C.F.R. § 121.103(a).

(3) Nonprofit organization:

A university or other institution of higher education located in any country. § 1.27(a)(3)(ii)(A).

An organization of the type described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a). Also included are such organizations located in a foreign country that would qualify if it were located in this country. § 1.27(a)(3)(ii)(B), (D).

A nonprofit scientific or educational organization qualified under a nonprofit organization statute of a U.S. state. Also included are such organizations located in a foreign country that would qualify if it were located in this country. § 1.27(a)(3)(ii)(C), (D).

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Please note that a license to the Government resulting from a rights determination under Executive Order 10096 does not constitute a license that would prohibit claiming Small Entity Status. Similarly, for small business concerns and nonprofit organizations, a license to a Federal agency resulting from a funding agreement with that agency under 35 U.S.C. § 202(c)(4) is not a license that would prohibit claiming Small Entity Status. § 1.27(a)(4).

I hereby assert that I am empowered to sign on behalf of the party identified below ("Party"). Persons empowered to sign include, but are not limited to, an inventor him- or herself or an authorized officer of an assignee or licensee. See § 1.27(c)(2).

I have made a determination of the Party's entitlement to Small Entity Status, including a determination that all parties holding rights in the invention qualify for Small Entity Status. § 1.27(f).

I hereby assert that the Party has not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed--and is under no obligation under contract or law to do so--any rights in the invention to any other party that would not qualify as a Small Entity. If the rights in the invention held by the Party are not exclusive, each other party having rights in the invention is GMP COMPANIES, INC. Separate assertions of Small Entity Status should be obtained from each party having rights to the invention.

I hereby assert that the Party is entitled to be accorded Small Entity Status by the USPTO for the application or patent identified above. § 1.27(c)(1).

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I understand that Small Entity Status must be newly determined when the issue fee and each maintenance fee is due. If there is any change resulting in loss of entitlement to Small Entity Status, I acknowledge the duty to file a notification to the USPTO in this application or patent before or upon paying the fee. § 1.27(g).

I understand that Small Entity Status must be separately established in any related application, including continuation, divisional, continuation-in-part, continued prosecution application or reissue application. § 1.27(c)(4).

I understand that any attempt to establish Small Entity Status improperly, deceptively or fraudulently will be considered a fraud practiced on the USPTO and may result in abandonment of the application or jeopardize the validity and enforceability of any resulting patent. § 1.27(h).

10/15/2002



Date

Name: John Campbell

Title: Director of Intellectual Property

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